

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0040] with the following amended paragraph:

[0040] FIG. 14A is a drawing of an alternative embodiment of the present invention including a release device.

Please add the following new paragraphs after paragraph [0040]:

FIG. 14B is a drawing of an alternative embodiment of the present invention including a fluid pre-biasing device.

FIG. 14C is a drawing of an alternative embodiment of the present invention including an electromechanical pre-biasing device.

Please replace paragraph [0080] with the following amended paragraph:

[0080] Referring to Figure 14A, such an embodiment of the present invention may include a tissue penetrating device, an outer sleeve 210, and a handle 1410. The handle 1410 may include a main cylinder 200 that houses a sliding piston 230, and a compression spring 240. The upper (proximal) end of the outer piston may have a shoulder above which the compression spring 240 may be loaded.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0084]:

Referring to Figure 14B, an alternative embodiment of the present invention showing an alternative pre-biasing device which may include a tissue penetrating device, an outer sleeve 210, and a handle 1410. The handle 1410 may include a main cylinder 200 that houses a sliding piston 230, and a compression chamber 231. The compression chamber 231 may communicate with a source of compressed fluid 234. This compressed fluid may be a compressed gas or a pressurized hydraulic fluid. Similar to that described in Figure 14A, the main cylinder may be provided with a trigger that has a spring. Retraction of the outer piston may engage this spring in the groove, thereby locking the outer piston in the locked position. Pressing a button may release

this lock, allowing the compressed fluid 234 to expand into the compression chamber 231 and advance the outer piston distally at high velocity.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0084]:

Referring to Figure 14C, an alternative embodiment of the present invention showing an alternative pre-biasing device which may include a tissue penetrating device, and outer sleeve 210 and a handle 1410. The handle 1410 may include a main cylinder 200 that houses a sliding piston 230, and a chamber 236. The chamber 236 may have electromagnets 237 having one polarity when energized positioned on the top of the sliding piston 230. When the outer piston is retracted by pulling back on the handgrip, the two electromagnets 237 and 238 are brought into close proximity with each other. When energized, the magnets will be repelled from each other and the sliding piston 230 will be maximally advanced in the main cylinder.